

UC DAVIS



ARBORETUM AND
PUBLIC GARDEN

POLLINATOR PLANT LIST

hummingbirds

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Aloe × spinosissima
spider aloe

This perennial evergreen rosette has succulent leaves studded with creamy “teeth.” Its leaves sprout dramatic spikes of dark-red flowers in winter, making it a showy and sculptural plant.



- Size:** One-foot tall mounding to two to three feet with age
- Sun/Shade:** Sun or part shade
- Pruning:** Remove spent flower stems in spring/summer
- Water:** Medium to low
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Alstroemeria ‘Koncajoli’ Inca Joli™
Inca Joli™ Peruvian lily

Peruvian lilies are tough, low-water perennials that spread underground and produce beautiful flowers in spring that are long lasting in both the garden and flower arrangements. Without irrigation, their foliage dies back in summer and then resprouts with cool, moist fall weather.



- Size:** One and a half to two-feet tall
- Sun/Shade:** Sun or part shade
- Pruning:** Remove spent stems in summer
- Water:** Medium to low
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Anigozanthos flavidus
kangaroo paw

This is an evergreen perennial with spiky, vertical foliage that is useful for its shape when used with rounded plants. In summer, the plants produce curious, three-foot-tall stalks of furry, “paw-like” flowers that open to green inside.



- Size:** Two-feet tall and three feet in bloom
- Sun/Shade:** Sun
- Pruning:** Remove any winter-damaged foliage in spring
- Water:** Medium
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Arbutus ‘Marina’
Marina madrone

This small evergreen tree has shining dark-green foliage, beautiful coppery-brown stems, clusters of rosy-pink, urn-shaped flowers and attractive red fruits. It is one of the best small trees for our area.



- Size:** Slowly grows to twenty-five or thirty feet in our area
- Sun/Shade:** Sun or part shade
- Pruning:** Shape stems to either single or multi trunk as desired; remove lower branches to display attractive muscular stems and peeling bark
- Water:** Medium to low
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Arctostaphylos densiflora ‘Howard McMinn’
Howard McMinn’s manzanita

This is a medium-sized, evergreen native shrub with attractive bark and a profusion of pinkish flowers in late winter and early spring. More adaptable to gardens than other manzanita species, it also provides nectar for resident Anna’s hummingbirds and native bees.



- Size:** Slow growing to six-feet-tall and wide
- Sun/Shade:** Sun or part shade
- Pruning:** Shape stems as desired and remove lower branches to display attractive muscular stems and bark. Cut back to woody stems at base to shape in winter
- Water:** Medium (for good bloom) to low
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Callistemon viminalis ‘Little John’
Little John bottlebrush

This dwarf form of the weeping bottlebrush has evergreen, gray-green foliage and showy, dark-red flowers on a compact, rounded plant. It has flowers in fall, winter and spring, and it is a tough and adaptable plant for sunny, low-maintenance areas.



- Size:** Four to five-feet-tall and wide (not three-by-three) in our area
- Sun/Shade:** Full sun best
- Pruning:** Little to no pruning needed except perhaps an occasional damaged or errant stem
- Water:** Low
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Correa reflexa ‘Carpenter Rocks’ Carpenter Rocks Australian fuchsia

This is a small, spreading, evergreen shrub with clasping, heart-shaped green leaves and dangling, bell-like chartreuse and vermillion flowers produced in winter and very early spring. It needs fast drainage and likes poor rocky soils. It attracts hummingbirds.

- Size:** Three to four-feet-tall and wide
- Sun/Shade:** For shade especially on slopes
- Pruning:** Tip prune when young to encourage branching, and prune to shape as it ages
- Water:** Moderate to low depending on exposure



Echeveria ‘Imbricata’ Imbricata hens and chicks

This is a tough and hardy succulent that forms beautiful, blue-gray rosettes of leaves not unlike the shape of a rose flower. The base of the plant produces “pups” that grow and enlarge into a cluster of plants over time. It produces hook-shaped flower stalks of pink and yellow flowers.

- Size:** Six to eight-inches-tall spreading over time
- Sun/Shade:** Shade or morning sun in our area
- Pruning:** No pruning needed
- Water:** Medium to medium low



Chilopsis linearis desert willow

This is a fast-growing, small deciduous tree native to desert washes of the southwest that has pink or white, showy, two-lipped flowers and narrow leaves. It tolerates heat and drought.

- Size:** Fifteen to twenty feet
- Sun/Shade:** Full sun
- Pruning:** Tip prune when young to encourage branching, and prune to shape as it ages; naturally multi-trunked
- Water:** Low to medium



Epilobium canum, cultivars California fuchsia

This is a California native perennial with gray, silver and green-foliaged varieties and tubular, orange-red flowers in summer and fall.

- Size:** One to three-feet-tall depending on variety and spreading over time
- Sun/Shade:** Sun
- Pruning:** Mow to the ground in winter
- Water:** Low



Dicliptera suberecta velvet honeysuckle

This is a beautiful summer bloomer with silky, velvet-gray leaves and many clusters of tubular orange flowers (reported cold hardy to USDA zone 7a). It is low growing and long flowering into the fall.

- Size:** Two-feet-tall and wide
- Sun/Shade:** For sun or part shade
- Pruning:** Prune in February to remove cold-damaged growth when the danger of frost is past; in fall, remove spent flower stalks if desired
- Water:** Medium to high is best



Gambelia speciosa ‘Firecracker’ firecracker gambelia

This is a medium-sized, fast-growing shrub with fuzzy, lime-green foliage and lipstick-red flowers in summer and fall. It is amenable to shaping and use as a hedge. It may be damaged in cold winters but will quickly recover.

- Size:** Compact habit, three-feet-tall and wide
- Sun/Shade:** Full sun or part shade
- Pruning:** Prune to shape, may be necessary to clean up frost damage in our area.
- Water:** Low once established



Grevillea 'Winpara Gem'

Winpara Gem grevillea

This medium-sized, evergreen shrub from Australia has finely-divided, silvery leaves and vivid, red clusters of flowers in fall and winter.



- Size:** Six to eight-feet-tall and wide
Sun/Shade: Full sun or part shade
Pruning: Prune to shape
Water: Low once established

Justicia spicigera Mexican honeysuckle

This is a spreading shrub with pale-green foliage and narrow, orange, tubular flowers nearly year round. It is great for providing color to shady gardens in hot summer climates and for attracting hummingbirds.



- Size:** Three-feet-tall and wide
Sun/Shade: Partial shade or morning sun
Pruning: Prune to shape and to induce branching
Water: Low to medium

Hesperaloe parviflora coral yucca

This tough, upright succulent with long, narrow leaves and interesting, curling white hairs on the edges is useful as an accent in low-water mixed plantings. In spring and summer, long wands of long-lasting, coral-pink flowers rise to two to three feet above the foliage.



- Size:** Foliage three-feet-tall and wide, to five feet in bloom
Sun/Shade: Full sun
Pruning: Remove old flower stalks if desired
Water: Low

Kniphofia 'Christmas Cheer' Christmas cheer poker plant

This large, herbaceous perennial is unique in providing brilliant flowers in winter. Its arching, apple-green stems form a loose mound of foliage from which emerge long stalks topped with orange and yellow tubular flowers.



- Size:** Foliage two to three feet with flowers to five feet
Sun/Shade: Full sun
Pruning: Remove spent flower stalks when desired
Water: Low once established

Peritoma arborea (syn. *Isomeris*) bladderpod

This medium-sized shrub from the southwest deserts has gray foliage and dangling, yellow flowers practically all year that are followed by inflated fruit.



- Size:** Five-feet-tall and wide
Sun/Shade: Full sun or part shade
Pruning: Prune to shape and to keep compact
Water: Low

Lonicera standishii winter honeysuckle

This is a semi-deciduous shrub with upright rigid stems that produce small, white, deliciously fragrant, one-half-inch blooms in January. Its stems can be cut for indoor fragrance.



- Size:** Five or six-feet-tall and wide
Sun/Shade: Full sun or part shade
Pruning: Prune to shape after bloom
Water: Medium low

Pelargonium sidoides
garnet geranium

This evergreen perennial has lovely, heart-shaped silvery leaves and delicate clusters of deep, ruby-red flowers that can appear almost black in low light.



- Size:** One to two-feet-tall and wide
- Sun/Shade:** Full sun or part shade
- Pruning:** Remove old flower stalks as desired and prune to shape
- Water:** Medium low to low
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Penstemon 'Schoenholzeri'
firebird penstemon

This is an herbaceous perennial with long, narrow, bright-green leaves that blooms in the spring with bright-red flowers with white centers. It blooms again sporadically in summer and fall.



- Size:** Three-feet-tall and wide when in bloom
- Sun/Shade:** Full sun
- Pruning:** Deadhead spent flowers to increase rebloom and cut old foliage to ground in late winter
- Water:** Medium best for good bloom
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Rhodophiala bifida
red Argentine amaryllis

This is an unusual, tough, bulbous plant with deep-red, horizontal, bell-like flowers in summer and fall followed by narrow, dark-green leaves in winter and spring. Its foliage is deciduous in summer.



- Size:** Twelve to eighteen-inches-tall
- Sun/Shade:** Full sun or part shade
- Pruning:** Remove spent leaves in spring
- Water:** Low water
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Ribes malvaceum 'Montara Rose'
Montara Rose chapparral currant

This is a small to mid-sized California native shrub with lobed, dark-green leaves and dark, rose-red flowers in winter that provides nectar for our resident hummingbirds. It may be summer deciduous with low water.



- Size:** Five-feet-tall and wide
- Sun/Shade:** Full sun or part shade
- Pruning:** Prune to shape after flowering
- Water:** Low water
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Russelia equisetiformis
coral fountain

This beautiful large perennial has nearly leafless, arching, bright-green foliage that is topped with a profusion of red, tubular flowers in summer and fall.



- Size:** Three-feet-tall and wide
- Sun/Shade:** Full sun
- Pruning:** May be deciduous in cold winters; prune off damaged stems after danger of frost is past and it will re-sprout from the base
- Water:** Low water
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Salvia chamaedryoides
germander sage

This is a small, evergreen shrub with silvery-gray foliage. Its intense, true-blue flowers are heaviest in spring and fall but it will have some flowers all year long. It spreads underground over time.



- Size:** Two-feet-tall and spreading to three-feet-wide
- Sun/Shade:** Sun
- Pruning:** Deadhead to encourage rebloom and increase branching
- Water:** Low (although blooms better with medium)
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Salvia leucantha 'Midnight'
purple Mexican bush sage

This is a large perennial that blooms in late summer and fall with showy, furry, purple flowers and stems. It is beautiful

- Size:** Four-feet-tall by five-feet-wide; spreading over time
- Sun/Shade:** Sun
- Pruning:** Cut back to basal stems after bloom
- Water:** Low to medium



Salvia 'Violin Music'
Violin Music autumn sage

This is a spreading shrub that gets covered with lilac-violet flowers that have contrasting dark calyces and stems. It blooms heavily in spring and fall with sporadic flowers in summer.

- Size:** Compact, two to three-feet-tall by three to four-feet-wide
- Sun/Shade:** Sun
- Pruning:** Prune annually by one third to keep compact and bushy
- Water:** Low



Salvia spathacea
hummingbird sage

This is a spreading, California native perennial with broad, triangular leaves with a pineapple-like fragrance. Its flower stalks grow one to two feet tall with red flowers in whorls often with colorful bracts below.

- Size:** One to two-feet-tall and slowly spreading over time
- Sun/Shade:** Sun or shade
- Pruning:** Can refresh foliage by cutting to ground in fall
- Water:** Low water



Trichostema lanatum
woolly blue curls

This desirable, small, shrubby native has aromatic, narrow, dark-green leaves that are white below and fuzzy, dark-blue flower spikes with arching, showy stamens in spring and summer. It needs fast drainage and is best on slopes and rocky soils.

- Size:** Three to four-feet-tall by five-feet-wide
- Sun/Shade:** Sun
- Pruning:** Remove old flower stalks to encourage rebloom; prune to shape when young
- Water:** Low water
- Water:** low to medium water



Salvia greggii 'Red Swing'
Red Swing autumn sage

This is a tough and attractive sage with upright stems and bright orange-red flowers and dark contrasting calyces.

- Size:** Two to three-feet-tall by three-feet-wide.
- Sun/Shade:** Tolerates hot afternoon summer sun
- Pruning:** Prune to increase branching and bushiness in early spring
- Water:** Low

